

SB 1157- An Act Concerning the Restoration of the Energy Conservation & Load Management Fund

**Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee
Public Hearing
March 21, 2011**

Good Afternoon. Senator Daily, Representative Widlitz and members of the Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee, my name is Robert Auer, President of Energy Solutions, I am here today in support of **SB 1157- An Act Concerning the Restoration of the Energy Conservation & Load Management Fund.**

Energy Solutions is a design and install energy efficiency lighting contractor, whose business relies solely on the conservation funds to provide revenue for its day to day operations. As part of the state conservation programs, we audit commercial buildings, and then make and install recommendations for the improvements, after getting the customers consent. Without the conservation funds to help offset the costs of our valuable services, we would not find enough business to employ (18) full time employees, and electrical contractors.

The diversion of rate payer funds from the Connecticut Energy Efficiency programs threatens many companies like mine including the jobs it creates, right here in Connecticut. The energy efficiency programs allow all utility customers a cost effective means of reducing their energy use, and lowering their monthly bills. With the legislation that passed last year, fewer residents and businesses have the opportunity to take advantage of these great programs that ratepayers fund. This reduced funding will affect current Connecticut companies, such as my own. We will see a reduction in business, which in turn will limit our ability to hire and train new employees, and may cause the loss of current positions.

SB 1157 will reinstate a portion of the money that was to be securitized; this would mean a great deal for Connecticut energy efficiency providers, their employees, and the ratepayers of Connecticut. The energy efficiency programs in the state are an incredible economic and environmental tool. An example of the tremendous leverage of these funds have is the replacement of a 455W outdoor Pole light with a 210 watt Induction retrofit kit. With a 40% incentive of \$400.00, \$4,410 of energy costs can be saved throughout that new lamps life. That same retrofit will save reduce the need from power plants to produce 36,750 lbs. of carbon dioxide, 20 lbs. of sulfur dioxide, and 9 lbs. of nitrogen dioxide, from the atmosphere; and that is equivalent to planting 7 acres of trees for every light pole that is retrofitted.

It is also important to note, that according to the report, "Connecticut Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Economy Baseline Study", there are more than **11,800 jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector in Connecticut.** Without these programs fully funded, Connecticut ratepayers - both residential and commercial will not benefit nearly as much as they could, and want to.

CEEF Programs support an energy that costs less, is cleaner for the environment, creates thousands of jobs, and saves Connecticut businesses and residential customer's lots of money. These funds help save Connecticut's natural resources and fossil fuels, can be implemented immediately, and has a 4 to 1 return on investment. Today CEEF is having a positive impact on CT's economy, environment, and electric grid, and everyone who truly understands this, is responsibly asking to increase the funding so that more valuable help can take place.

I have attached a list that includes energy efficiency and conservation benefits provided to residential, commercial and industrial customers of the electric and gas utilities and CMECC: which exceeds \$65 million in incentive benefits.

We urge you to support SB 1157. Connecticut residents will benefit in more ways than one. It is good for the economy and it is good the environment. Thank you for your time.

Assistance to Customers in Con

This list includes energy efficiency and conservation benefits provided to residential, commercial and industrial customers of the electric and gas utilities and CMEEC; which exceeds \$65 million in incentive benefits.

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Andover | \$ 8,864 | East Lyme | \$ 413,844 |
| Ansonia | \$ 267,187 | East Windsor | \$ 122,686 |
| Ashford | \$ 35,599 | Eastford | \$ 16,841 |
| Avon | \$ 252,273 | Easton | \$ 109,002 |
| Barkhamsted | \$ 13,794 | Ellington | \$ 117,327 |
| Beacon Falls | \$ 20,037 | Enfield | \$ 796,072 |
| Berlin | \$ 319,378 | Essex | \$ 43,609 |
| Bethany | \$ 69,176 | Fairfield | \$ 1,048,882 |
| Bethel | \$ 242,165 | Farmington | \$ 895,184 |
| Bethlehem | \$ 11,368 | Franklin | \$ 21,221 |
| Bloomfield | \$ 527,968 | Glastonbury | \$ 455,567 |
| Bolton | \$ 30,174 | Goshen | \$ 15,789 |
| Bozrah | \$ 42,003 | Granby | \$ 85,455 |
| Branford | \$ 256,706 | Greenwich | \$ 533,552 |
| Bridgeport | \$ 3,354,248 | Griswold | \$ 66,324 |
| Bridgewater | \$ 8,333 | Groton | \$ 942,186 |
| Bristol | \$ 667,743 | Guilford | \$ 421,181 |
| Brookfield | \$ 504,206 | Haddam | \$ 38,685 |
| Brooklyn | \$ 49,505 | Hamden | \$ 2,073,422 |
| Burlington | \$ 46,969 | Hampton | \$ 7,348 |
| Canaan | \$ 10,001 | Hartford | \$ 4,545,001 |
| Canterbury | \$ 21,852 | Hartland | \$ 7,184 |
| Canton | \$ 202,231 | Harwinton | \$ 18,446 |
| Chaplin | \$ 18,131 | Hebron | \$ 59,152 |
| Cheshire | \$ 317,578 | Kent | \$ 34,414 |
| Chester | \$ 13,451 | Killingly | \$ 379,347 |
| Clinton | \$ 137,277 | Killingworth | \$ 26,443 |
| Colchester | \$ 136,511 | Lebanon | \$ 17,775 |
| Colebrook | \$ 13,828 | Ledyard | \$ 26,461 |
| Columbia | \$ 31,120 | Lisbon | \$ 40,096 |
| Cornwall | \$ 134,318 | Litchfield | \$ 68,173 |
| Coventry | \$ 105,253 | Lyme | \$ 11,158 |
| Cromwell | \$ 249,006 | Madison | \$ 142,520 |
| Danbury | \$ 1,535,140 | Manchester | \$ 951,913 |
| Darien | \$ 470,447 | Mansfield | \$ 358,363 |
| Deep River | \$ 85,225 | Marlborough | \$ 45,198 |
| Derby | \$ 553,110 | Meriden | \$ 827,308 |
| Durham | \$ 43,819 | Middlebury | \$ 93,329 |
| East Granby | \$ 71,569 | Middlefield | \$ 101,116 |
| East Haddam | \$ 79,282 | Middletown | \$ 643,762 |
| East Hampton | \$ 92,501 | Millford | \$ 2,236,908 |
| East Hartford | \$ 902,748 | Monroe | \$ 266,184 |
| East Haven | \$ 530,866 | Montville | \$ 290,985 |

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|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Morris | \$ 23,048 | South Windsor | \$ 651,969 |
| Naugatuck | \$ 676,037 | Southbury | \$ 305,446 |
| New Britain | \$ 698,860 | Southington | \$ 748,896 |
| New Canaan | \$ 123,421 | Sprague | \$ 2,143,826 |
| New Fairfield | \$ 80,461 | Stafford | \$ 235,179 |
| New Hartford | \$ 62,741 | Stamford | \$ 3,113,901 |
| New Haven | \$ 2,953,367 | Sterling | \$ 8,273 |
| New London | \$ 195,069 | Stonington | \$ 463,680 |
| New Milford | \$ 259,019 | Stratford | \$ 1,661,909 |
| Newington | \$ 399,808 | Suffield | \$ 167,555 |
| Newtown | \$ 181,291 | Thomaston | \$ 95,048 |
| Norfolk | \$ 7,602 | Thompson | \$ 45,461 |
| North Branford | \$ 131,344 | Tolland | \$ 62,447 |
| North Canaan | \$ 957,880 | Torrington | \$ 516,141 |
| North Haven | \$ 661,869 | Trumbull | \$ 556,977 |
| North Stonington | \$ 15,625 | Union | \$ 1,526 |
| Norwalk | \$ 1,171,604 | Vernon | \$ 312,009 |
| Norwich | \$ 561,247 | Voluntown | \$ 10,333 |
| Old Lyme | \$ 94,119 | Wallingford | \$ 1,128,678 |
| Old Saybrook | \$ 113,384 | Warren | \$ 1,788 |
| Orange | \$ 552,761 | Washington | \$ 39,369 |
| Oxford | \$ 50,946 | Waterbury | \$ 1,697,906 |
| Plainfield | \$ 112,710 | Waterford | \$ 207,349 |
| Plainville | \$ 276,209 | Watertown | \$ 234,083 |
| Plymouth | \$ 118,199 | West Hartford | \$ 1,565,484 |
| Pomfret | \$ 18,441 | West Haven | \$ 950,184 |
| Portland | \$ 96,958 | Westbrook | \$ 58,763 |
| Preston | \$ 41,967 | Weston | \$ 105,766 |
| Prospect | \$ 37,069 | Westport | \$ 214,961 |
| Putnam | \$ 78,279 | Wethersfield | \$ 300,149 |
| Redding | \$ 43,671 | Willington | \$ 38,371 |
| Ridgefield | \$ 326,355 | Wilton | \$ 181,567 |
| Rocky Hill | \$ 360,164 | Winchester | \$ 151,911 |
| Roxbury | \$ 12,831 | Windham | \$ 1,134,638 |
| Salem | \$ 26,189 | Windsor | \$ 606,689 |
| Salisbury | \$ 69,877 | Windsor Locks | \$ 142,346 |
| Scotland | \$ 3,415 | Wolcott | \$ 131,307 |
| Seymour | \$ 120,344 | Woodbridge | \$ 162,832 |
| Sharon | \$ 21,839 | Woodbury | \$ 99,714 |
| Shelton | \$ 613,863 | Woodstock | \$ 27,509 |
| Sherman | \$ 35,554 | | |
| Simsbury | \$ 409,307 | | |
| Somers | \$ 73,459 | | |

* Based on 2009 data. All figures are approximate and may vary due to rounding. This does not include incentives for ISO-NE Load Response program participants.